

HCRIS PRODUCTION NOTES FOR HOME HEALTH AGENCY (HHA) COST REPORT DATA

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1. OVERVIEW:

CMS stores the HCRIS cost report files in a relational database.

The foremost characteristic of this database is the fact that data elements will be distributed in flat files aligned with the database table in which they reside in our database.

You will be able to access the entire set of HCRIS Cost Report data that is submitted to HCRIS by a Fiscal Intermediary on behalf of a provider. The major benefit for all users is the ability to use Relational Database Technology to quickly exclude certain fields of data or perform cross-sectional analysis.

The following website contains the cost reporting reimbursement manuals and electronic cost reporting specifications for provider cost reports:

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Manuals/PBM/itemdetail.asp?filterType=none&filterByDID=0&sortByDID=1&sortOrder=ascending&itemID=CMS021935>

2. INTRODUCTION:

The CMS Form 1728-96 HHA Cost Report data files contains cost reports with fiscal years ending on or after September 30, 1994. The data files contain the highest level of Medicare cost report status. If HCRIS has both an as submitted report and a final settled report from an HHA for a particular year, the data files will only contain the final settled report. If HCRIS has an as submitted, final settled, and reopened report from an HHA for a particular year, the data files will contain the reopened cost report. It is possible for 1 HHA Provider to submit 2 or more cost reports for a given year for the same cost report status. This may happen if a Provider changes its FY, or if there is a CHOW (Change of Ownership) during the year. We have also found cost reports that were sent in error with an incorrect FYB or FYE. For the most part, HCRIS tries to eliminate these incorrect submissions by contacting the FI and deleting a cost report that the FI identifies as incorrect.

If you have any questions about this product, please contact the HCRIS staff via e-mail at HCRIS@cms.hhs.gov, and use the letters "HHA" in the subject line.

3. NOTES:

The data included with this release includes all years (from FY1994) of HHA cost reports received by HCRIS through date in filename. If you are querying data for a specific year, you will need to set up query

parameters to include only the years that you want to analyze. For example, if you want data for fiscal year 1996, you need to create a condition for the fiscal year begin date to be between 10/1/95 through 9/30/96.

The data in the HHA database includes cost reports for free-standing HHA's through FY05. Hospital-based HHA's are included in the Hospital database (2552-96).

To use the HHA cost report database, you first need to determine the data that you are interested in by reviewing the cost report forms and the data specifications. You will need to know the Worksheet ID, line, and column from the cost report form. For example, if you wanted to extract the data for "Home Health Agency-Number of Skilled Nursing Visits Title XVIII", you will need to determine where this information is collected in the report and use these elements as parameters to pull the data from the HHA_RPT_NMRC table. The number of Home Health Agency Skilled Nursing Visits Title XVIII is collected on Worksheet S-3, Part I, Line 1, Column 1 so you would create the following condition:

Worksheet Code ='S300000' *

Line Number ='00100'

Column Number ='0100'

*Note: Use Table 2 of HCRIS specs to determine worksheet codes.

Many lines on the worksheet forms can be subscripted. For example, the worksheet form may show line 6, but it is possible that data relating to that line could be reported on lines 00600 thru 00699. Keep that in mind when extracting data for a particular line.

It is important to read the cost center coding rules from Table 4 of the HCRIS specifications to understand the connection between worksheet line numbers and cost center codes. The table explains what cost center codes to use for each line on the worksheets that collect data for cost centers. When collecting data from any cost center code, remember to enter a range of cost center codes. For example, the cost center for Clinic includes lines from 01800 through 01899.

4. FILES AND CONTENTS:

1728-94_Specifications - Compressed winzip file containing the specifications for all

worksheets that comprise the HCRIS HHA system in Microsoft Word.

1728-94_Forms.xls - File containing the forms that comprise the HHA system in Microsoft Excel format. (The cells that are extracted for HCRIS contain an "X")

HHA_COUNTS_xx_xx_xx.xls - File containing the counts of HHA cost reports per year in Microsoft Excel format.

HHA_DESC.txt - Brief description of this data release.

HHA_DM.pdf - Adobe PDF version of the Relational Data Model for HHA HCRIS

HHA_RPT.zip - Compressed Winzip file containing 1 text file with the raw data to be loaded into the HHA_RPT table. The file contain data

elements that are separated by commas.

HHA_RPT_ALPHNMRC.zip - Compressed Winzip file containing 1 text file with the raw

data to be loaded into the HHA_RPT_ALPHNMRC table. The file contains data elements that are separated by commas.

HHA_RPT_NMRC.zip - Compressed Winzip file containing 1 text file with the raw data to be loaded into the HHA_RPT_NMRC table. The file contains data elements that are separated by commas.

HHA_TABLES.sql - ANSI SQL Program (non-Database specific) Containing the DDL scripts to create the 3 tables that comprise the HCRIS HHA Database.

HHA Data Dictionary.xls - A dictionary describing the fields included in the database.

HHA_README.TXT - This readme file.

5. SET UP GUIDANCE:

It is important to note that the datafiles you will be provided are not restricted for use in one given database platform or even a database management system for that matter. You will likely be able to use your existing tools or utilities to access the data, given the ability of those tools to handle files up to the size of the largest datafile and files containing data arranged in CSV or Comma Separated value format.

Please be certain to examine the individual datafile and corresponding database table structure carefully or else you may not achieve valid results or even be able to access the data. If you choose to use a relational or desktop database management system, please be mindful of the sizes of the various datafiles.

6. DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTY:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services shall retain no responsibility for the data recipients inability to load, examine, or otherwise use the published data for the HCRIS system.

The information in these files is subject to change, and should be reviewed for each release.

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